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VOL. XXXII No. 28

Week of April 16-22, 2009

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Lubbock/West Texas Region

## FOR HISPANICS, 2010 CENSUS MIXES HOPES, FEARS Censo Combina Esperanzas y Temores Para Hispanos

By Jacqueline Baylón

The April 1 Decennial Census kickoff next year is already attracting lots of cooperation and some apprehension among leaders of Hispanic organizations. As they pledge to work closely with the U.S. Census Bureau on outreach, they are expressing concern that the federal government could, among other worries, miss counting well over a million Hispanics, as it admitted to doing in 2000.

"The census is the foundation of our democracy and we cannot have fair representation as Latinos in Congress and state legislatures without a full census," emphasizes Arturo Vargas, National Association of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials executive director.

Raúl Cisneros, the Decennial's media relations branch chief at the U.S. Department of Commerce, points out that starting with the 2012 election, "The count is used to determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives."

If the three percent Hispanic undercount of the 2000 Census is repeated in 2010, 1.4 million Latinos will be missed, by the bureau's own admission. That, advocates emphasize, is equivalent to two congressional districts.

Also affected are opportunities, with new political district lines drawn, for more Hispanics to be elected to several state legislatures.

More than \$300 billion in federal funds is awarded annually based on census data to states and communities to support a variety of programs and public services.

Millions will be allocated for such programs in regions of high Hispanic growth when the new

population figures are factored in. Between 2000 and 2010 the U.S. Hispanic population will have increased from 35.3 million to a projected 47.8 million, not counting more than 4 million in Puerto Rico.

Several Hispanic organizations have joined forces to help the Census Bureau by launching a campaign. "¡Hágase Contar! (It's Time, Make Yourself Count!)"

The project is led by NALEO, which promotes participation of Latinos in the U.S. political process.

In 2006, the Ya es Hora ¡Ciudadanía! (It's Time - Citizenship!) drive was geared to encourage eligible permanent residents to become U.S. citizens.

In 2008, a second phase, Ya es Hora ¡Vota!, rallied Latinos to participate in that year's presidential election.

Now, with the partnership of Mi Familia Vota Education Fund, NALEO's Educational Fund, along with the National Council of La Raza, League of United Latin American Citi-

zens, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and other ethnic and union groups, the civic action continues with a focus on obtaining a full Census count.

Involved also are several Spanish-language media companies, among them Azteca América, Entravisión Communications, ImpreMedia, Univisión Communications and Telemundo. On April 1 the latter cable channel, which is directed at bilingual Latinos, kicked off its public service campaign ¡Hazte Contar! (Be Counted).

Organizations partnering with Telemundo include the LULAC, the U.S. Hispanic Leadership and MANA, a National Latina Organization.

The U.S. Constitution requires the Census Bureau to count everyone residing in the United States and its territories every ten years regardless of immigration status. The 2010 Census is expected to cost the government \$14 billion.

Angelo Falcón, president of the New York-based National Institute for Latino Policy, says to ensure a valid tally, the bureau must hire trained bilingual enumerators, including a sufficient number to reach growing immigrant populations who speak indigenous languages.

Falcón, who serves as a member of the Census Bureau's Hispanic advisory committee and chairs the watchdog Latino Census Network, a collaborative of some 30 organizations focused on census issues, mentions workplace raids by Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) as a potentially serious turn-off to communities whose cooperation is essential.

Gabriela Lemus, president of Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, adds that her organization has already gone on record asking ICE to discontinue its aggressive actions that breed distrust of our government and disrupt families. ICE should direct more enforcement attention to employers who are breaking the law, she says.

More than 15 percent of the nation's population is Hispanic. Between 2010 and 2050 it is projected to triple, raising the proportion to 25 percent.

The Census Bureau projects Hispanics' economic muscle will rise from \$862 billion in 2007 to more than \$1.2 trillion in 2012, accounting for 9.7 percent of all U.S. buying power.

(Jacqueline Baylón is a reporter with Hispanic Link News Service in Washington, D.C. Email editor@hispaniclink.org) ©2009

Por Jacqueline Baylón

El inicio del Censo Decenal el primero de abril del año entrante ya atrae mucha cooperación y algo de temor entre los dirigentes de organizaciones hispanas. En lo que se comprometen a colaborar estrechamente con la Oficina del Censo de EE.UU. en cuanto a enlace con la comunidad latina, también están expresando preocupaciones que el gobierno federal podría, entre otras cosas, dejar de contar a más de un millón de hispanos, como admitió haber hecho en el 2000.

El censo es el fundamento de nuestra democracia y no podemos lograr representación plena de los latinos en el Congreso y en legislaturas estatales sin tener un censo completo", enfatiza Arturo Vargas, director ejecutivo de la Asociación Nacional de Funcionarios Electos y Nombres (NALEO por sus siglas en inglés).

Raúl Cisneros, jefe de relaciones mediáticas para el Censo Decenal en el Departamento de Comercio de EE.UU., señala que empezando con las elecciones del 2012, "El censo se utiliza para determinar cuántos escaños tendrá cada estado dentro de la Cámara de Representantes estadounidense".

Si en el Censo 2010 se repite el no contar a tres por ciento de los hispanos como ocurrió en el Censo 2000, se dejará de contar a 1.4 millones de latinos, según lo que la misma Oficina del Censo indica. Esta cifra, enfatizan los defensores de los derechos latinos, equivale a dos distritos electorales del Congreso.

También al volver a trazar límites de distritos políticos resultan afectadas las oportunidades para ser electos más hispanos dentro de varias legislaturas estatales.

Se otorgan anualmente más de \$300 mil millones en fondos federales con base en la información del censo, los cuales van destinados a estados y a comunidades para apoyar una variedad de programas y servicios públicos.

Se distribuirán millones para estos programas en regiones que contienen alto crecimiento de la población hispana, cuando se calculan las nuevas cifras de población. Entre el año 2000 y el 2010 la población hispana en los EE.UU. habrá aumentado de 35.3 millones a una cifra proyectada de 47.8 millones, sin contar a más de 4 millones de personas en Puerto Rico.

Varias organizaciones hispanas han establecido colaboraciones para apoyar a la Oficina del Censo al lanzar una campaña llamada, Ya es hora ¡Hágase contar!

NALEO dirige este proyecto, el cual promueve la participación de los latinos en el proceso político estadounidense.

En el 2006, la campaña Ya es hora ¡Ciudadanía! se ideó para animar a residentes permanentes calificados a hacerse ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos.

En el 2008, una segunda fase, Ya es hora ¡Vota! animó a latinos a participar en los comicios presidenciales de aquel año.

Ahora, con la participación del Fondo Educativo Mi Familia Vota, el Fondo Educativo de NALEO, con el Consejo Nacional de La Raza, la Liga de Ciudadanos Latino Americanos Uni-

dos (LULAC), el Fondo Mexicano Americano de Defensa Legal y Educación (MALDEF) y otros grupos étnicos y sindicales, continúa la acción cívica dedicada a lograr un conteo completo del censo.

También participan varias empresas mediáticas. United States Census 2010

cas en español, entre ellas Azteca América, Entravisión Communications, ImpreMedia, Univisión Communications y Telemundo. El primero de abril Telemundo, dedicado a los latinos bilingües, inició su campaña de servicio público ¡Házte Contar!

Las organizaciones que colaboran con Telemundo incluyen a LULAC, al U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute y MANA, una organización nacional latina.

La Constitución de los Estados Unidos requiere que la Oficina del Censo cuente a toda persona que reside en los Estados Unidos y en sus territorios cada diez años, sin reparar en el estado migratorio de la persona. El Censo del 2010 se anticipa costará al gobierno \$14 mil millones.

Angelo Falcón, presidente del National Institute for Latino Policy, con sede en Nueva York, indica que para asegurar un censo válido, la oficina debe contratar a enumeradores bilingües capacitados, incluyendo a un número suficiente para llegar a las poblaciones migrantes crecientes quienes hablan lenguas indígenas.

Falcón, miembro del comité hispano asesor para la Oficina del Censo y dirige la organización monitora Latino Census Network, una colaboración de unas 30 organizaciones que se dedica a temas del censo, menciona que las redadas de recintos laborales por la agencia de inmigración, ICE por sus siglas en inglés, puede resultar en enajenar a las comunidades cuya cooperación es esencial.

Gabriela Lemus, presidenta del Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, añade que su organización ya se ha declarado públicamente pidiendo que ICE suspenda sus acciones agresivas, las cuales resultan en fomentar desconfianza de nuestro gobierno y en alterar a las familias. ICE debería dirigir su atención a los empleadores quienes infringen la ley, comenta.

Más del 15 por ciento de la población nacional es hispano. Entre el año 2010 y el 2050 se proyecta la población se triplicará, llevando la proporción a ser del 25 por ciento.

La Oficina del Censo proyecta que la fuerza económica de los hispanos aumentará de los \$862 mil millones del 2007 a más de \$1.2 trillones en el 2012, lo cual consiste del 9.7 por ciento de todo el poder adquisitivo estadounidense.

(Jacqueline Baylón es reportera con Hispanic Link News Service en Washington, D

## Turner Classic Movies to Features Films with Latino Stars

Throughout the month of May, TCM's Race and Hollywood: Latino Images in Film will showcase 40 films, past and present, that show the progression of how Latino characters and culture are depicted in cinema. Joining TCM's Robert Osborne in hosting the festival will be UCLA professor Chon Noriega, author of Shot in America: Television, the State, and the Rise of Chicano Cinema.

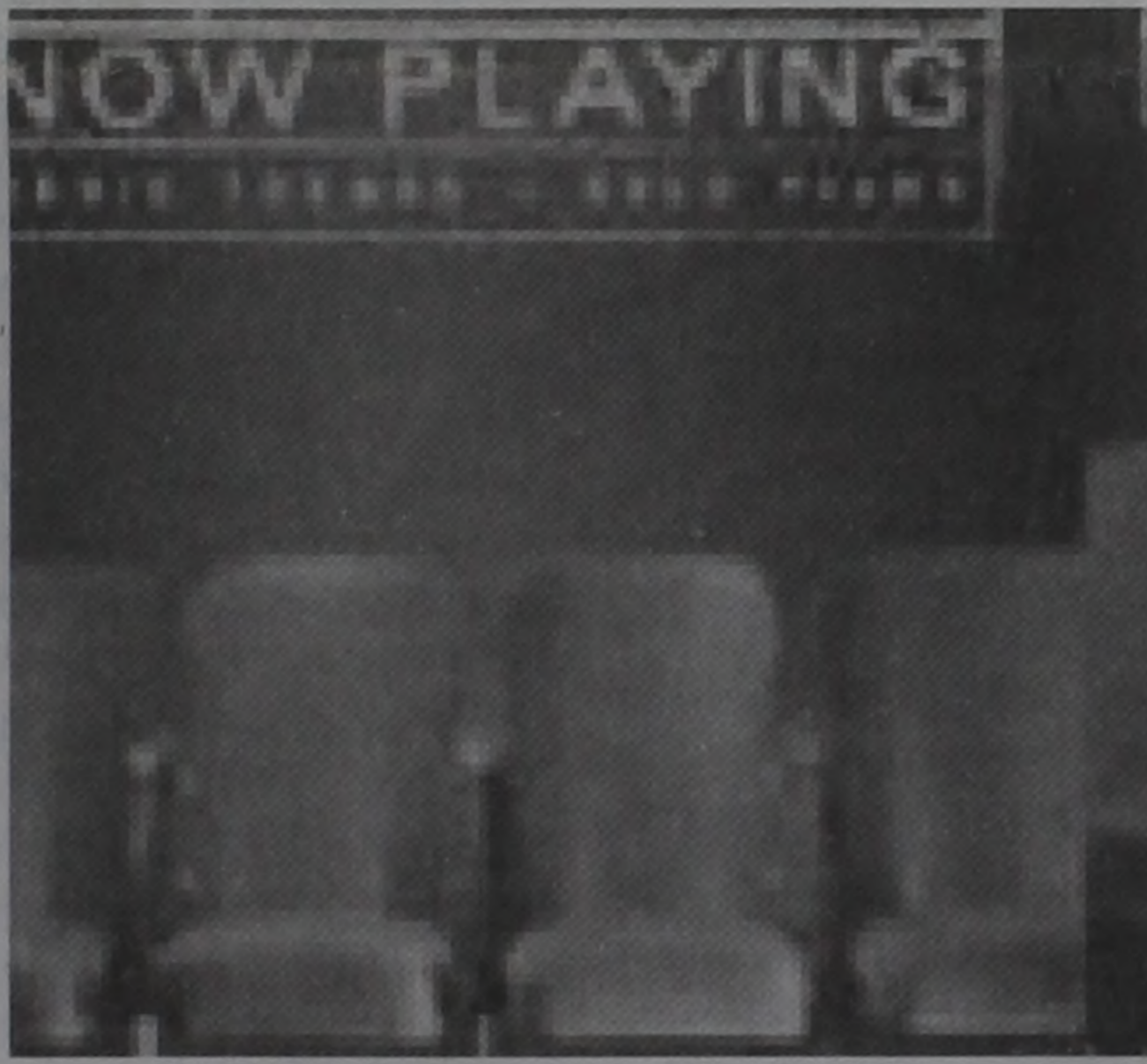
"As has been shown in our past Race and Hollywood editions, the way in which Hollywood depicts different cultural groups can have a tremendous impact on how those groups are viewed in society as a whole," said Charles Tabesh, senior vice president of programming for TCM. "We're proud that TCM has the library and resources to delve deeply into issues like racial and cultural identity in a way that no other network on television can. We are also thrilled to welcome the participation of noted scholar Chon Noriega as co-host with Robert Osborne for this project."

TCM's Race and Hollywood: Latino Images in Film festival will take place Tuesday and Thursday nights in May, beginning at 8 p.m. (ET). Each night's collection of films will be centered on a particular theme, such as a look at depictions from the silent era, views of border towns and small ethnic towns, musicals, stories featuring interracial relationships, explorations of social problems and Latino representations in past and current westerns. Also included in the festival lineup will be several contemporary films making their first appearance on TCM, including The Milagro Beanfield War (1988), La Bamba (1987), The Mambo Kings (1992), Stand and Deliver (1988), The Ballad of Gre-

gorio Cortez (1983) and Lone Star (1996). In addition, each evening will feature a specially chosen film for late-night movie fans.

Chon A. Noriega, is professor of cinema and media studies at UCLA and director of the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center. He is author of Shot in America: Television, the State, and the Rise of Chicano Cinema and editor of nine books, including Visible Nations: Latin American Cinema and Video and I, Carmelita Tropicana: Performing Between Cultures. Since 1996, he has been editor of A Journal of Chicano Studies, the flagship journal for the field since its founding in 1970. Noriega has curated numerous media and visual arts projects, including Phantom Sightings: Art After the Chicano Movement, which is currently traveling to venues in the U.S. and Mexico. He has also helped recover and preserve independent films, including the first three Chicano-directed feature films, which have been restored by the UCLA Film and Television Archive. Noriega has received the Getty Postdoctoral Fellowship in the History of Art and the Rockefeller Foundation Film/Video/Multimedia Fellowship. He is co-founder of the National Association of Latino Independent Producers (est. 1999) and served two terms on the Board of Directors of the Independent Television Service. He is currently completing a book on Puerto Rican multimedia artist Raphael Montanez Ortiz.

Past editions of TCM's Race and Hollywood festival series include explorations of how Hollywood has portrayed African-Americans in 2006



## Federal Campaign Funds Organization Identified as Hate Group

By Jake Rollow

One of the many non-profit charities supported by the Combined Federal Campaign - the annual fundraising drive of federal workers, which collects and disburses hundreds of millions of dollars annually - is considered by the Southern Poverty Law Center a hate group.

The SPLC, which tracks hate activity nationally, deemed the Washington, D.C.-based Federation for American Immigration Reform a hate group in December of 2007. According to CFC officials, FAIR has participated in the federal fundraiser for more than 15 years.

Mark Lambert, director of CFC Operations, said his office had not received a formal complaint about FAIR, but had been made aware of the issue late in 2008, when its National Capital Area chapter asked what to do if donors inquired about FAIR. Lambert said his office told the chapter to direct donors to CFC regulations. The CFC fundraiser is governed by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

CFC regulations do include a non-discrimination policy, but Lambert said the CFC relies on the IRS to determine if an organization is eligible for non-profit status. He also said FAIR is a member of a federation of charities within the CFC, which is responsible for ensuring its charities meet CFC eligibility

requirements. The CFC office can still review federation charities, but Lambert said, FAIR had not been reviewed by his office since 2005.

Lambert said his office would not take any action unless it received a formal complaint with evidence that FAIR is a hate group. He said the CFC has not looked into the SPLC's claims.

FAIR spokesperson Jack Martin rejected the SPLC's claim. "We haven't been deemed a hate group by any government entity and we don't think that the SPLC has any credibility or standing to make that kind of accusation, given that they don't identify any objective criteria for making their claims," said Martin. "We categorically deny that we have any association of any kind with any group that could plausibly be considered a hate group."

In a recent report, the SPLC said that FAIR's founder, Dr. John Tanton, who remains on the organization's board, has "deep racist roots" and that FAIR has brought into staff and advisor positions others who have been connected to additional organizations the SPLC deems hateful.

The report also said that between 1985 and 1994 FAIR accepted about \$1.2 million in donations from the Pioneer Fund. That founda-

tion's web site said it originated in the eugenics movement and aims to support study of heredity and human difference. Eugenics is the study of strategic human breeding to improve a population which was used by the Nazis.

Martin invited anyone to research FAIR's position on immigration in the many documents on its web site, none of which, he said, are discriminatory. The site said FAIR advocates for reduced immigration to the United States in the long run and a temporary moratorium on most immigration in the short run in order to create time for debate of policy reform.

Martin also noted that FAIR has been certified by the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance. He said the CFC fundraiser provides a small fraction of FAIR's annual financial backing. Citing one of FAIR's 2007 tax documents, Martin said only about \$25,000 came from the CFC, while the organization received more than \$5 million in total contributions.

In 2007, the last year for which all CFC funds have been tabulated, the campaign raised \$273 million and included more than 30,000 charities, officials said. Donors - federal military, postal and civilian workers - can either designate their contribution to their charity of choice, or donate without designa-

tion into a general fund. Money in the general fund is disbursed to all CFC charities in equal proportion to the amount of designated donations they receive. In 2007, officials said \$7.7 million was distributed as undesignated money.

There is a Hispanic federation of charities within the CFC, called the Hispanic United Fund. It is comprised of 24 organizations that are Hispanic or serve Hispanics. CFC officials said the Hispanic Fund received \$838,000 in 2007. They said they did not know how what amount individual organizations received. CFC also did not know how many Hispanic or Hispanic-serving organizations participate in the campaign independent of the Hispanic United Fund. Officials said no efforts are made to recruit the participation of Hispanic charities, nor any other charities.

Among the Hispanic organizations that participate in the CFC are three national Hispanic advocacy organizations, National Council of La Raza, the League of United Latin American Citizens, and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

All three were asked for comment on the membership of FAIR in the federal campaign. A LULAC official said no one was available who could comment. MALDEF declined to comment. NCLR did not respond to the request.

OTHER GROUPS LINKED TO FAIR GET CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH CFC

The SPLC report also links FAIR with two other immigration organizations which receive contributions from the CFC fundraiser. They are the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Immigration Studies and the Arlington, Va.-based NumbersUSA. The report said the organizations were "conceived and created" by FAIR's founder and that staff and advisors of the organizations have written for or edited one or more racist publications or web sites. SPLC has not deemed CIS or NumbersUSA hate groups.

When CIS was asked for comment on the matter, the organization emailed excerpts of a recent article by its executive director, Mark Krikorian. In it, Krikorian calls the SPLC report's section on CIS "amateurish hackwork." The email noted that the CIS board and its staff includes people who have risen to high posts in the U.S. government, and in black and Jewish organizations. The email did not address the SPLC charges connecting CIS and its personnel to FAIR or racist publications.

NumbersUSA Executive Director Roy Beck also criticized the SPLC report, saying it misrepresented him and his organization. He said he created NumbersUSA, although

Beck said the SPLC report tried to paint him and NumbersUSA as guilty by association, but that doing so was ideologically incorrect. He said neither he nor NumbersUSA have ever done anything anti-Hispanic.

CFC officials said that NumbersUSA has been a member charity since 2005. CIS has participated since 1999, but not every year

WHAT IS THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER?

By Jake Rollow  
The Southern Poverty Law Center was founded in 1971 in Alabama as a civil rights law firm. Its web site lists among its early victories those that desegregated the Montgomery YMCA, ended involuntary sterilization of women on welfare, and transformed the Alabama State Troopers from an all-white organization to a racially diverse police force. The center's first president was Julian Bond, one of the leaders of the black civil rights movement. He remains on the SPLC board of directors. The current president is Richard Cohen

El Editor  
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# Editorial

## Guest Commentary

### REPUBLICAN KAMIKAZES AT WORK

By José de la Isla

Hispanic Link News Service

HOUSTON, Texas — Before the 2006 midterm elections, chances looked good that a Republican leadership approach of benign neglect of banking and finance, admiration of a growing income gap between the rich and the middle class, low personal savings, high public deficits, unreported war costs and a promise of incorporating migrating populations into our nation's workforce would keep Republicans in office.

After all, George Bush had received unprecedented Hispanic support (read support for immigration reform) in the 2000 and 2004 elections crafted by Karl Rove. As a student of the 1896 William McKinley presidential campaign, Rove understood how a fundamentally changing economy, immigration and a very diverse national population affects political fortunes.

It worked in 2004 but Republicans needed immigration reform to bring in new members to the GOP base. Already Ronald Reagan's 1982 reforms had gained sympathetic ears from new citizens and Republicans harvested new voters and a sympathetic hearing for their neoconservative pleadings.

But a wacky portion of the party radicalized the immigration issue. They fused it with the fear of terrorism and came up with screwball ideas — like constructing a 2000-mile wall and militarizing the U.S.-Mexico border and conducting national dragnets that made our civil servants be perceived as Brown Shirts.

Let's face it. While there's a legitimate problem about transnational migrant workers and families, it assumes an ugly new shape when commandeered into a jingoistic, mostly anti-Mexican, movement.

Now here is the strange part: Those wackos who took to the radio waves and went on TV promoting their anti-immigrant dogma through their narcissistic screeds couldn't be heard by Hispanics. They didn't seem to understand that hundreds of thousands of immigrants and Hispanics were listening as they were being publicly demeaned and belittled and their children called deprecating names.

The hate horde thought Latino evangelical ministers didn't know that Right Wing radicals were targeting their congregations.

That was dumb.

By 2006, some 270 Hispanic evangelical ministers who saw through the hypocrisy formed the National Hispanic Prayer Breakfast and Conference. Collaboration between Latino evangelicals and Republicans started coming quickly apart.

Catholic social activist Enrique Morones led a national caravan that looped through most major U.S. cities. Word of mouth mushroomed into a national network. In March and April of that year the nation witnessed the largest pro-immigrant demonstrations ever.

The most vehement no-growth Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives lumped into former Colorado Congressman Tom Tancredo's House Immigration Task Force. Many of them began losing elections in 2006 and again in 2008. Others prudently retired from office. Republicans became a minority party.

In late March 2009, CNN's Larry King, working on the moment's hot topic — Mexico's war against narcotraffickers — invited Edward James Olmos, Sam Quinones and Tancredo to comprise a discussion panel on national immigration policy. An actor, a writer and the discredited congressman are a motley crew, to be sure.

Tancredo could not even stay on topic. In some bizarre way he was trying to make immigration and the U.S. drug-use market into a single problem. It sounded like a comedy team that ran out of jokes. Not even xenophobia works any more.

Why? Because the fringe elements would rather endanger the two-party system instead of compromising for a reasonable, sensible solution which would give the Republican Party room to grow. Instead, the present confining rancor and ruinous ideology is doing it in.

A befuddled, rudderless Republican Party needs to lighten up and get new leaders. If not, they become the party of the nuts, the political fringe, and the Washington D.C. chapter of the Minuteman Project.

[José de la Isla's latest book, Day Night Life Death Hope, is distributed by The Ford Foundation. He writes a weekly commentary for Hispanic Link News Service and is author of The Rise of Hispanic Political Power (2003). Contact him by e-mail at joseisla3@yahoo.com.]

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## Latino Call to Action- Immigration Reform in 2009

Don't miss the chance to be a part of change this year!

When President Obama spoke at the 2008 NCLR Annual Conference as a presidential candidate, he vowed to take up immigration reform in his first year in office. He recently indicated that he intends to make good on his promise to reform our dysfunctional immigration system this year (see article). Join advocates across the country to help achieve the reform that our country and our community need!

Join us on Friday, April 17, 2009 for NCLR's first Latino Call to Action on the topic of Immigration Reform in 2009. Invited Speakers:

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34)  
The Honorable Lincoln Diaz-Balart (FL-21)  
Janet Murguía, President and CEO, NCLR  
Irene Godínez, Advocacy Director, El Pueblo, Inc.

Friday, April 17  
2:00 p.m. EST (1:00 p.m. CST, Noon MST, 11:00 a.m. PST)

Please RSVP to receive call information at [http://www.nclr.org/section/rsvp\\_call](http://www.nclr.org/section/rsvp_call). Please join us for this important call!

## The National TEA Party

By: Ysidro Gutierrez

Here at El Editor we like to present fresh ideas or new perspectives on the tried and true. We always look for topics that no one else is talking up and spin'em to stimulate our readers imagination and if we are really creative, a few critical comments for our "Open Forum." We don't aim to up-stage anyone but we are also watchful so as not to be up-staged ourselves. This week I was going to right about going swimming at the Mackenzie State Park Swimming pool in my youth and how it is now a Dog-Patch thanks to Linda Deleon. However the National Tea Party, that is still going strong as I pen this commentary, seems to be the lead story in every National media outlet. Who would read a piece about my growing up in the Labor Camp in what is now Aztlan Park while millions of Americans are marching in the streets and throwing Tea Parties. I wouldn't, so I won't ask our readers to. Instead I'm doing as the Nationals do, I'm writing about the Tea Party — "Let's Roll!"

I got home from the local Tea Party at the Lubbock County Court house at about 7 p.m. on Wednesday and began to mull over the happenings at the gazebo. The first thing I noticed was the absence of the local Tax and Spend Politicians. Absent were RINO's Patti Jones and Bill McCay and stalwart Democrats Linda Deleon, Floyd Price, and Gilbert Flores. I heard one reveler say that Gilbert Flores was peering through the glass door but dared not venture into the crowd. It was a peaceful gathering but Tax and Spend Democrats dared not show their faces. I did see two Conservative Republicans there — County Judge Tom Head and Mayor Tom Martin. Mayor Martin was one of the featured speakers. His closing statement was "I've been in office 5 years and I've never voted for a Tax Increase — Never! And this year's budget WILL NOT raise taxes." The crowd was jubilant over the Mayor's revelation.

But let's get back to the TEA Party — If you weren't one of the 600 or so who attended — this paragraph is for you. The speeches were about the "Change" Obama has wrought on the nation since he became President on January 20, 2009. There was no jubilation over what the speakers said about the President. The revelers ire was raised by Obama's Big Government initiatives, massive spending and printing of dollars and borrowing from China. Obama's bowing to the king of Saudi Arabia and ingratiating himself to the Europeans left a bitter taste in the revelers. Obama is believed to be weak on defense — making us more venerable to attack. His appointment of corrupt people to his cabinet and to mid-level positions is more of the same not "the Promised Change" they charged. He is said to be waging war on American's Free Market and rewarding failure, and waging Class warfare; turning Americans against each other. Obama they believe is plunging America head-long into Socialism — which has failed everywhere it was ever tried. I don't recall one single compliment from the podium. I enjoyed the great music and singing which were interspersed with the speeches. In fact the songs were really great and at the end the whole crowd sang "God Bless America" which made me feel misty. I shouldn't forget to mention that the party began and ended with a Prayer.

Another interesting observation was the number of bronze faces in the crowd. There were about 100 Chicanos there. We were whopping and hollering and singing along with our fellow Conservatives. If I were asked by the organizers about ways to improve — I'd suggest they have a Chicano speaker. However I'm not holding my breath waiting for someone to ask. They ignored us again; our respectable showing notwithstanding. But I'm not disheartened. I don't feel this is a big issue at this point in Lubbock's history. Nuestra Raza is still politically immature. We lack the clout to raise money and our Precinct's elect 10th grade dropouts. What wonderful examples for our youth. It will take at least another 5 years before la Raza participates fully in political power in Lubbock. I'm comforted knowing there are many Conservative Chicanos in Lubbock. Anyone interested in winning elections will have to realize that 60% of all new Texans are Chicanos and Texas is growing by 500,000 every year. You don't have to be a math-wiz to figure this one out.

## El Consejo Nacional De La Raza Aplauda El Movimiento En La Casa Blanca Sobre Una Reforma Migratoria

Washington, DC — El Consejo Nacional de La Raza (NCLR por sus siglas en inglés) — la organización nacional más grande de apoyo y defensa de los derechos civiles de los hispanos en Estados Unidos — recibió con gusto hoy el reporte en el New York Times de que el Presidente Barack Obama ha hecho la reforma migratoria una de sus más importantes prioridades para este año.

"El mensaje que salió de las elecciones del 2008 es que queremos líderes que van a resolver los problemas difíciles. El Presidente Obama prometió que se enfocaría en el tema de inmigración en su primer año en la Casa Blanca, y nos da gusto esta señal de que el Presidente tiene la intención de honrar su promesa", dijo Janet Murguía, presidenta del NCLR. "Está claro de que el camino a una recuperación económica verdadera incluye estrategias que alzan los sueldos, incrementan las fuentes de ingresos y crean un campo laboral justo para todos — y la reforma migratoria es un elemento importante de la solución."

## NCLR Aplauds White House Movement on Immigration Reform

Washington, DC — The National Council of La Raza (NCLR)—the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States—welcomed today's report in the New York Times that President Barack Obama has made immigration reform one of his top priorities for this year.

"The message from the 2008 election is that this nation wants leaders who will solve tough problems. President Obama pledged that he would address the issue of immigration during his first year of office, and we are pleased by this signal that he intends to make good on his promise," said Janet Murguía, NCLR President and CEO. "It is clear that the path to a strong economic recovery includes strategies that lift wages, increase revenue, and create a level playing field—and immigration reform is a crucial element of that equation."

"The can't-do crowd will raise its voice again, but poll after poll have shown that the vast majority of Americans are looking for a fair and effective way to fix the immigration system. The Latino community is ready to work with the White House and Congress to arrive at solutions that protect families and workers, and uphold both the American value of shared prosperity and our nation's can-do attitude. We intend to work with the President and Congress to make this a reality," concluded Murguía. [www.nclr.org](http://www.nclr.org)

## "Freedom of Expression"

An Open Forum Where Readers Express their Views and Opinions

## Mackenzie Park: "For Whites Only"

by Carlos Quirino, Jr.

It is not surprising to me that, at this point in time, another attempt will be made to exclude the Chicano/Mexicano population of Lubbock from enjoyment of Lubbock's largest park by the City Council's decision to construct an animal shelter on the same site that one of Lubbock's first swimming pools was once erected in the 1930's. There was a time in our fair city when citizens from the barrios of Lubbock were denied the use and patronization of Mackenzie Park and movie theaters such as the Lindsey owned by the now deceased and former Governor Preston Smith who was "not aware" that a sign which read "No Dogs or Mexicans Allowed" was posted at the entrance to the theater.

According to very reliable sources there was in fact one particular police officer who made it his personal mission to rid Mackenzie of any and all Mexican American youth who ventured to defy the order to KEEP OUT.

Now we find ourselves in a situation where again we will be forced to accept an animal shelter in place of a swimming pool where the children and youth of North and East Lubbock will continue to travel to other parts of the city during the hot summer months. As residents of the Guadalupe Neighborhood in the near northside, my wife and I went before the Lubbock City Council requesting the consideration of the building of a new swimming pool at Mackenzie. Let us not confuse the issue here by thinking that we are not in favor of finding an adequate and safe haven for homeless animals in our city. It is not without reason that the residents of the Guadalupe neighborhood were totally dumbfounded by the bulldozing of the Neighborhood Center at Guadalupe Park which has never been reconstructed as promised by city officials. Promises which in 2004 were included in a citywide bond election which was presented to residents of Guadalupe as a guarantee that over 10 million dollars would be dedicated to developing Canyon Lake #3 and the "Arroyo" into a recreation area and attraction second to none.

So, just as the special needs children of Lubbock deserve adequate facilities to play baseball and all other sports, so do the children of North and East Lubbock deserve equal facilities to swim in. When city officials decide to redirect monies to other areas of the city, they should first consider the impact on the residents and children of the areas from which those funds are taken. If we are against the construction of an animal shelter at Mackenzie Park, it is not because we do not feel that animals should be treated and cared for with the best of facilities. It is because we feel that our children are also entitled to the best that our city can offer. Our children should be able to witness for themselves that the City of Lubbock truly has their best interests at heart.

## MALDEF WINS TEMPORARY INJUNCTION HALTING DPS DENIAL OF DRIVER'S LICENSES TO LEGAL IMMIGRANTS

AUSTIN, TX — Today, the 419th District Court in Travis County issued a temporary injunction blocking the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) from enforcing rules that deny driver's licenses to legal immigrants living and working in Texas. The lawsuit was filed by the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) on behalf of five individuals who are authorized to reside and work in the United States and a landscaping business that legally employs foreign workers under the federal H-2B program. The case challenges the recently-adopted illegal and overreaching rules and policies of the Texas DPS that prevent thousands of persons across Texas from receiving standard-issued licenses even though they possess valid immigration documents issued by the federal government.

In her opinion initially sustaining MALDEF's challenge, Judge Orlinda L. Naranjo ruled that DPS acted outside the scope of its authority when it adopted the new rules and that the Plaintiffs have demonstrated a probable right to ultimate relief or success in their case.

"The Texas Department of Public Safety in an overreaching action exceeded its authority by systematically denying full licenses to people who reside legally here in Texas," said MALDEF Southwest Regional Counsel Nina Perales. "We are pleased that the Court has concluded that the plaintiffs are entitled to an injunction pending a full trial," continued Perales.

The court's order follows a two-day temporary injunction hearing held in Austin on March 25 and 26, 2009 in which MALDEF challenged certain 2008 rules adopted by the Public Safety Commission that effectively allowed DPS to exclude otherwise qualified persons from receiving driver's licenses solely on the basis that they held less than one-year visas or had less than six-months remaining of permission on their visas. DPS also changed the appearance of driver's licenses for persons with legal permission to reside in the U.S., but who are not U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents, and limited the expiration term of licenses for such persons.

"DPS has created havoc by attempting to inject its political agenda into the lawmaking process and improperly giving second class status to individuals who in every way have complied with the laws of the land regarding their presence in the United States and Texas," said David Hinojosa, MALDEF lead attorney in the case. "The court's injunction puts a temporary stop to that agenda and we look forward to a permanent injunction after trial," continued Hinojosa.

A copy of the decision may be found at [www.maldef.org](http://www.maldef.org).

## El Editor

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# Immigration Think Tank Urges Obama to Create Path to Citizenship



With President Obama gearing up to tackle immigration reform, an immigration think tank is urging him to provide this country's estimated 12 million illegal immigrants a path to citizenship, insisting that it would help turn around the troubled economy.

In a new report, the Immigration Policy Center, which bills itself as a "think tank dedicated to research and analysis about the contributions made to America by immigrants," holds that passage of two immigration bills that died on Capitol Hill recently would have helped to solve many problems.

The group believes that Congress's failure to pass the bills — which were floated in 2006 and 2007 — has cost the government up to \$66 billion in tax revenue

because illegal immigrants tend to work under-the-table jobs. The group says undocumented workers constitute about 5 percent of the entire U.S. workforce, and maintains that immigration reform would enable immigrants to earn more, and therefore spend more.

The Washington D.C.-based think tank released the report and held a telephone press conference on Monday.

"Enfranchised consumers are better consumers," said Dan Siciliano, the group's senior research fellow and the executive director of the Program in Law, Economics, and Business at Stanford Law School. "People are more willing to buy a home if they have more certainty about their future."

The group says it would like to see a reform package that legalizes as many of the 12 million people as possible. Their preferred bill also would require

people to come forward "out of the shadows," pay taxes and back taxes, prove they do not have a serious criminal record, and share their employment history.

To discourage the "underground economy," Immigration Policy Center spokeswoman Angela Kelley said the preferred bill also would require employers to use an electronic documentation verification system connected to a government database.

What's more, Kelley said the group wants to see the United States refresh its inventory on the nation's need for unskilled workers. She said the federal government's current annual figure — 5,000 — is too low.

The researchers said it is also impractical to believe 12 million people can be deported.

"People don't just vanish," said David Kallick, a senior fellow at the Fiscal Policy Institute. "It's just not real. Mass deportation is just not going to happen."

The researchers did acknowledge that illegal immigrants sometimes compete for jobs with U.S.-born unskilled laborers, but said the evidence showing harm to U.S.-born workers is "negligible."

# Castro pide a Obama levantar el embargo y autocritica

La decisión del presidente Barack Obama de aliviar las sanciones a Cuba es "mínima", pero "positiva", aunque faltan acciones más contundentes como eliminar el embargo y hasta una autocritica, aseguró Fidel Castro.

Según el ex gobernante, Obama debería usar "su talento en una política constructiva que ponga fin a la que ha fracasado durante casi medio siglo".

Castro reaccionó a la decisión unilateral anunciada la víspera por Washington de eliminar las trabas para que cubanos-americanos puedan viajar sin restricciones a la isla y enviar remesas.

"La medida de aliviar las restricciones a los viajes en sí es positiva, aunque mínima. Hacen falta otras muchas", dijo cubano en una de sus dos "Reflexiones" —sus columnas de opinión— publicadas el martes en medios de prensa locales.

El embargo a Cuba es un entramado de leyes que prohíbe el comercio con Cuba y sanciona cualquier intercambio no autorizado desde los viajes culturales, pasando por la compra o venta de mercancías, hasta las operaciones bancarias.

Castro destacó la iniciativa del senador republicano Richard Lugar,

quien encabeza un grupo de congresistas y empresarios interesados en normalizar las relaciones.

Para el ex gobernante, Obama debería tomar también algunas actitudes políticas, como prometer a los pueblos de América Latina que no volverá a usarse de la fuerza para atacar a los países de la región como ocurrió a lo largo del siglo XX en Panamá, Nicaragua, Dominicana o Guatemala.

Ni tampoco apoyar invasiones como la de Playa Girón. "El artero y sorpresivo ataque de Girón nos costó más de 150 vidas y centenares de heridos graves. Nos gustaría escuchar alguna autocritica del poderoso país y la garantía de que nunca volverá a producirse en nuestro hemisferio", escribió el ex mandatario.

El 17 de abril de 1961 cubanos anticastristas desembarcaron en Bahía de Cochinos para derrocar a la revolución. Tropas estadounidenses apoyaron el desembarco —los hombres habían sido entrenados por expertos de la vecina nación—, que fue repelido el día 19.

"Por el bien de la democracia y los derechos humanos, hace falta una voz que desde Washington nos diga que la Escuela de las

Américas, especializada en golpes de Estado y torturas, será cerrada para siempre", manifestó además Castro.

Castro, de 82 años de edad, delegó el poder en su hermano Raúl Castro en julio de 2006, pero mantiene un liderazgo simbólico en Cuba y en amplios sectores en América Latina.

En ambas "Reflexiones" Castro insistió en la buena voluntad y la sinceridad de las palabras y acciones de Obama y lo libró de la responsabilidad de las hostilidades de sus predecesores en la Casa Blanca.

Observadores indicaron que Obama podría estar preparando con estas medidas de alivio a las sanciones para los cuestionamientos que algunos países de la región anunciaron le harían en la próxima Cumbre de las Américas esta semana en Trinidad y Tobago.

Cuba se encuentra excluida de este foro desde su apertura en los años 90, cuando gobiernos latino-americanos afines a Washington lo usaron para presionar por un cambio en el sistema comunista de la isla. Ahora muchos países están demandando el fin de las hostilidades de Washington hacia La Habana.

# Mexican Congress debates legalizing marijuana

Mexico's Congress opened a three-day debate Monday on the merits of legalizing marijuana for personal use, a policy backed



by three former Latin American presidents who warned that a crackdown on drug cartels is not working.

Although President Felipe Calderon has opposed the idea, the unprecedented forum shows legalizing marijuana is gaining support in Mexico amid brutal drug violence.

Such a measure would be sure to strain relations with the United States at a time when the two countries are stepping up cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking.

The congressional debate — open to academics, experts and government officials — ends

a day before President Barack Obama arrives in Mexico for talks on the drug war.

Proponents had a boost in February when three former presidents — Cesar Gaviria of Colombia, Ernesto Zedillo of Mexico and Fernando Cardoso of Brazil — urged Latin American countries to consider legalizing the drug to undermine a major source of income for cartels.

The congressional discussion takes on a subject "that had been taboo" in our country, said opposition lawmaker Javier Gonzalez, adding that his Democratic Revolution Party supports legalizing personal marijuana consumption.

"What we don't want is to criminalize youths for consuming or possessing marijuana," he said.

Calderon, whose six-year terms ends in 2012, has proposed legislation that would offer users treatment instead of jail time but stop short of legalizing or decriminalizing possession.

In 2006, Mexico backed off a law that would have abolished prison sentences for drug posses-

sion in small amounts after the U.S. protested.

"It's clear that a totally prohibitive policy has not been a solution for all ills," said Interior Department official Blanca Heredia. "At the same time, it's illusory to imagine that complete legalization of marijuana would be a panacea."

Heredia urged lawmakers to keep in mind that drug use is rising in Mexico. She said the number of people who have tried drugs rose from 3.5 million in 2002 to 4.5 million in 2008, while the number of addicts rose from 307,000 to an estimated 465,000.

Mexico's drug violence has surged to unprecedented levels since Calderon launched a military-led offensive against powerful trafficking cartels in 2006. Since then, more than 10,560 people have been killed, mostly in violence between rival gangs.

Lawmakers are not discussing a specific proposal, and the debate is not expected to result in concrete action. Lawmakers have said they want to hear various viewpoints before they begin considering proposed bills for legalizing marijuana.

# CNN's Rick Sanchez Draws Link Between Shooting and Fox News' Alarmist Rhetoric

CNN news anchor Rick Sanchez is accusing Fox News and conservative commentators of stoking unfounded fear among right-wing gun-control extremists, saying it probably contributed to a rash of recent shootings.

In a recent report on CNN Newsroom, Sanchez drew a link, for example, between the "alarmist" rhetoric of conservative commentators and the April 4 killing of three Pittsburgh police officers. The suspect is 22-year-old Richard Poplawski, who believed that a growing left-wing government was conspiring to take away his rights.

"That weekend tragedy involves a man who allegedly shot and killed three police officers in cold blood. Why? Because he was convinced, after no doubt watching Fox News and listening to right-wing radio, that quote, 'Our rights were being infringed upon,'" Sanchez said.

Poplawski's Internet activities reveal that he was a frequent visitor of extreme-right Web sites, such as Stormfront — a neo-Nazi site, according to Pittsburgh Post Gazette.

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In his report, Sanchez said much of the commentary on Fox News — such as Glenn Beck's talk of doomsday and Sean Hannity's pronouncements that President Barack Obama is a socialist — have contributed to a recent spike in gun sales.

"According to the FBI, there have been 1.2 million more requests for background checks of potential gun buyers from November to February than there in the same four months last year," he said.

As for Poplawski, Sanchez said a friend of his later said that Poplawski was 'worried about the Obama gun ban that is on the way.' What ban?

"Here's the real issue here," Sanchez continued. "Poplawski might not be alone in this crazy 'they're coming to get us' mindset. There is evidence of a gun-buying panic."

Sanchez's report drew criticism from the conservative blog NewsBusters, which accused Sanchez of trying to undermine his competition.



"One could be sure that Sanchez would be pointing his finger squarely at his competitors on the right from the first moment he mentioned the gun issue," wrote commentator Matthew Balan.

But the segment was praised by the liberal blog Crooks and Liars.

"Rick Sanchez used some air time today to help expose the insanely irresponsible behavior of all the members of the Limbaugh National Committee and their preachers of paranoia," wrote John Amato, the site's founder. "Sanchez played some extremely disturbing video from Youtube by the patriot militia crowd and went over the high volume of shootings that are spreading across the country."

# Obama taps Frank Sánchez for trade post



Francisco "Frank" J. Sánchez, is President Obama's nominee for under secretary for international trade at the Department of Commerce, the White House said late Tuesday.

The undersecretary for international trade oversees four divisions and more than 1,000 employees in trade offices in 85 countries. Sánchez' appointment requires confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

Sánchez, 49, is a well known attorney in Tampa Bay and holds an of counsel position in the Tampa office of Akerman Senterfitt. Previously he was chief executive officer for Renaissance Steel Corp. in Ybor City. A Tampa native, he ran for mayor of Tampa in 2003.

He served as a policy adviser

on Latin America to the Obama campaign. He was also the chairman of the National Hispanic Leadership Council for the campaign and was its top Hispanic fundraiser nationally, according to published reports.

Word of the Sánchez appointment began surfacing locally April 8, but calls to the nominee for confirmation were not returned.

During the Clinton administration in 1999, Sánchez became a special assistant to the president working in the Office of the Special Envoy for the Americas. Sanchez worked with the National Security Council, the State Department and the U.S. Trade Representative. President Clinton later appointed Sánchez assistant secretary of transportation where he developed aviation policy and oversaw international negotiations. Prior to his public sector work, Sánchez practiced corporate and administrative law with Steel Hector and Davis in Miami. Before practicing law, he served in the administration of Florida Gov. Bob Graham, as the first director of the state's Caribbean Basin Initiative Program.

For the last 15 years, Sánchez has worked with several consulting companies on projects involving complex transactions, labor-management negotiations, litigation settlement, negotiation

strategy, alliance management, facilitation and training, recently as a partner with CM Partners.

Sánchez was tapped in May 2006 by Renaissance Steel shareholders, including developer William Bishop and Don Wallace, founder of Lazy Days RV Center Inc., to run the company.

But earlier this year, the company had a letter of intent to sell its assets and equipment by the end of January to a new entity, Innovative Steel, a light-gauge steel fabrication company.

Renaissance Steel planned to specialize in manufacturing lightweight trusses and panelized wall and floor systems for the commercial and residential markets, especially in the affordable housing segment. Residential infill development also was in the plans.

But that's not exactly the way things worked out.

"We did very little housing," Sánchez told the TBBJ in January. "It was mostly commercial."

Also in 2006, the Tampa-based Patel Foundation for Global Understanding — a community-based organization whose mission is to promote and perpetuate peace through knowledge, health and culture — named Sánchez president and chief executive officer.

In its release, the White House also mentioned Sánchez's public-

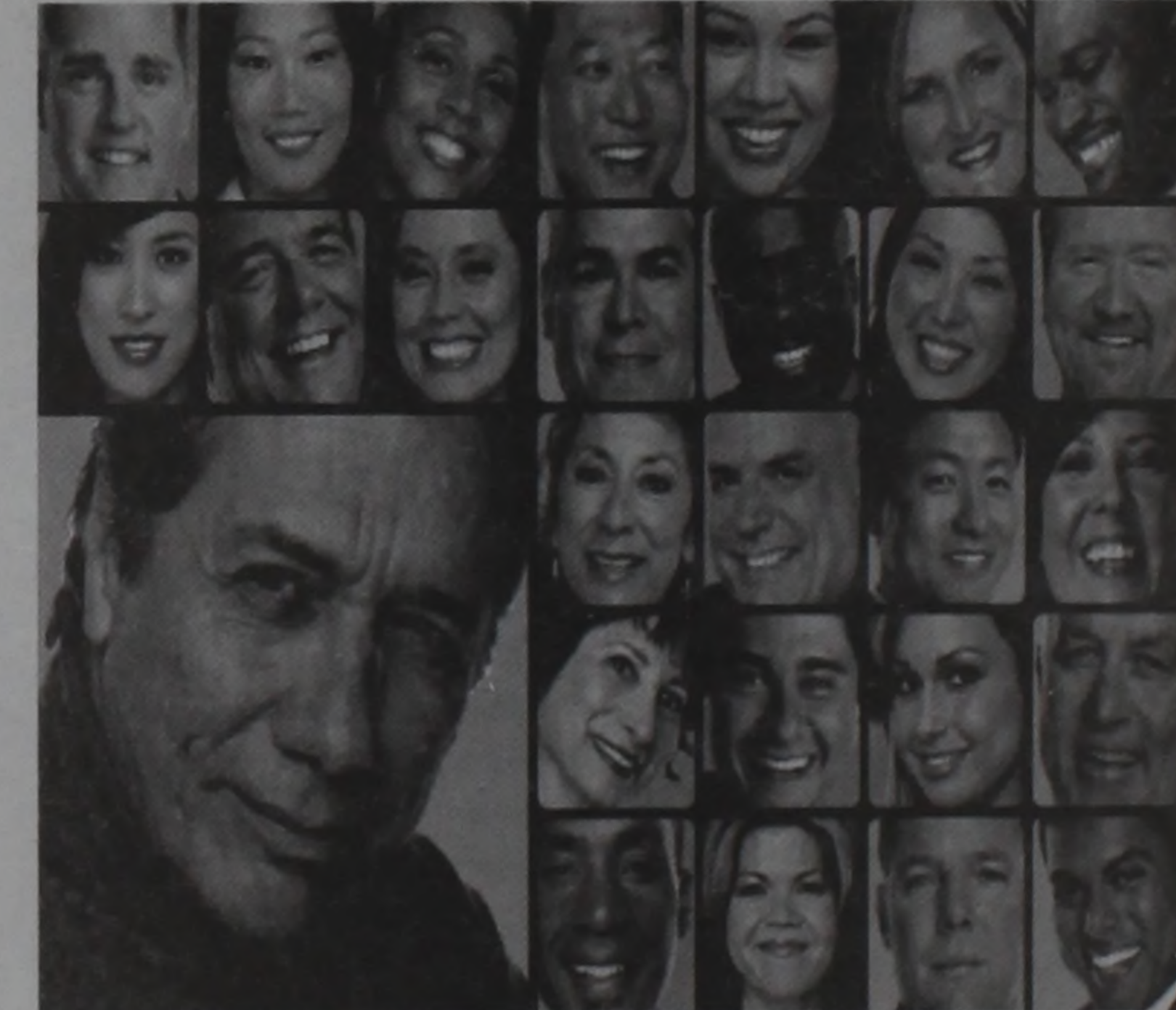
sector engagements heading a team in Medellín, Colombia, as part of a "Teaching Tolerance" program. He also advised the president of Ecuador in negotiations to settle the 56-year-old border dispute with Peru. He is a contributing author to Negociación 2000, a collection of essays on negotiation published by McGraw-Hill.

Sánchez attended the University of Florida, received his undergraduate and law degrees from Florida State University and holds a master's degree in public administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

The League of United Latin American Citizens, one of the largest and oldest Hispanic civil rights organizations in the country, said in a statement that it is elated over the nomination as it gives Sánchez a key role in U.S. trade policy.

"Frank is no stranger to LULAC and has been involved with the organization for over 10 years," said LULAC National President Rosa Rosales.

The LULAC advances the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, health, housing and civil rights of Hispanic Americans through community-based programs operating at more than 700 LULAC councils nationwide.



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## Guiding Light Dims: Longest Running Soap Canceled



At the age of 72, the Emmy-winning CBS soap opera "Guiding Light" has been canceled. CBS announced Wednesday that it is retiring the longest-running scripted show in broadcasting history. The final show airs Friday, Sept. 18.

The program began on NBC radio in 1937 as a 15-minute serial, and was televised on CBS beginning in 1952.

TelevisionWeek had reported Sunday that the network was actively pursuing a replacement for the show, which has aired nearly 16,000 episodes and has earned 69 daytime Emmys.

Of the eight network soap operas currently on the air, "Light" is reportedly the lowest-rated. Procter & Gamble produces the show, and is exploring other options to keep the program alive, according to published reports. Those possibilities include an online version or a shift to a cable

network. All American daytime dramas have seen declines in viewership, thanks to such factors as the bad economy and prevalence of syndicated talk shows.

However, a 2006 New American Dimensions' survey of young Latinos found that telenovelas, the Spanish-language soaps, were their overwhelming favorites among Spanish-language programming, with sports and variety shows tied for second.

The pioneering soap opera, set in the fictional town of Springfield, was created by Irna Phillips. Many careers were launched there, including those of James Earl Jones, Calista Flockhart, Kevin Bacon, Allison Janney, Cicely Tyson and Taye Diggs. Said Barbara Bloom, head of daytime for CBS: "No show in daytime or primetime, or any time, has touched so many millions of viewers across so many years."

## Mexico slams Burger King for 'whopper' of insult



Mexico is protesting what it says is a whopper of an insult.

An advertisement for Burger King's Texican Whopper burger that has run in Europe shows a small wrestler dressed in a cape resembling a Mexican flag.

The wrestler teams up with a lanky American cowboy almost twice his height to illustrate the cross-border blend of flavors.

"The taste of Texas with a little spicy Mexican," a narrator's voice says.

The taller cowboy boosts the wrestler up to reach high shelves and helps clean tall windows, while the Mexican helps the cowboy open a jar.

Mexico's ambassador to Spain said Monday he has written a letter to Burger King's offices in that nation objecting to the ad and asking that it be removed. Jorge Zermeno told Radio Formula that the ads "improperly use the stereotyped image of a Mexican."

Press officials at Burger King Corp. offices in Miami, Florida,

and Madrid, Spain, did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Burger King is known for its signature Whopper hamburger.

One of the things that most angered Mexican officials was a print edition of the ad showing the wrestler wearing what

appear to be a Mexican flag as a cloak.

"We have to tell these people that in Mexico we have a great deal of respect for our flag," Zermeno said.

Mexico has very strict rules about using the flag. In 2008, the government fined a foreign-owned publishing house, Random House Mondadori SA, for showing disrespect to the country's flag in a video posted online.

The video showed a literature fan wearing a Mexican flag like a cape as he barges into a book signing and rips a piece of cloth from the coat of Brazilian writer Paulo Coelho.

It is not the first time that fast-food outlets have offended Mexican sensibilities.

Mexicans and other Hispanics in the United States objected to a Taco Bell ad from the 1990s that featured a pint-sized talking Chihuahua that spoke with a Mexican accent.

La pugna por los restos de Pedro Infante Jr. llegó a su fin ayer con la orden de un juez de Riverside de que sean entregados a su primera esposa.

Así, el hijo del ídolo Pedro Infante será trasladado a México para ser enterrado en Amealco, Querétaro.

"Estoy muy contenta. Ganamos. Nos lo vamos a llevar a México", dijo a la prensa Claudia González, con quien el difunto contrajo nupcias por primera vez en su país natal y procreó tres hijos: Pedro III, Paulino y Pamela.

La familia Infante González deseaba llevarse a su ser querido a México, pero Marisol Esparza, quien asegura haberse casado con el cantante en el 2000 en Estados Unidos y es madre de Lupita, la cuarta hija de Infante Jr., quería enterrar a quien llama su esposo en Whittier.

"Yo siempre ayudé a Pedro", expresó Esparza a los medios al salir de una audiencia en un tribunal de Riverside, según reportaron varias televisoras.

Ambas mujeres aclararon que Infante Jr. murió tras ser desconectado del respirador artificial, negando afirmaciones anteriores de que había muerto de manera repentina.

Las dos familias han pro-

tagonizado una pelea pública y constante desde el fallecimiento del actor el 1 de abril.

En una entrevista telefónica con desde México la tarde de ayer, Lupita Infante Torrentera —hermana del fallecido— aseguró estar contenta por la decisión judicial. Asimismo, comentó estar triste porque se conmemora hoy un aniversario más de la muerte de su padre a días del fallecimiento de su hermano.

"Nunca me imaginé, nunca me pasó por la cabeza que este año podría faltar mi hermano. Es increíble que sea tan cerquita de

la muerte de mi papá", aseguró tras agregar que ofrecerá una misa

"Yo me vine a México el día 2. y les dije: 'Oigan, por favor, les encargo mucho, no hagan caso de los comentarios. Voy a hablar con Joan [Sebastian] y voy por el dinero [para los gastos del entierro]'", dijo.

Hasta hace unos días, agregó, consideró aceptar la ayuda que el famoso cantautor le ofreció, pero las peleas familiares la hicieron cambiar de parecer.

Aseguró sentirse apenada por la colecta de dinero que sus sobrinos trataron de realizar en el Teatro Million Dollar el domingo pasado, la cual resultó ser un fracaso.

"Mi mamá no quiere saber nada de ellos. Ella ya sabe que Pedro está con mi papá y no les perdona el circo que han hecho cuando entraban de la mano Marisol y Claudia... Se deberían de haber peleado a Pedro en vida", dijo sobre la decisión que tanto ella como su madre han tomado de no participar en el funeral de Infante Jr. Por otra parte, el 13 de mayo se llevará a cabo otra audiencia para efectuar la repartición de los bienes de Infante Jr., quien participó en más de 80 películas, y cuyas regalías hasta el día de hoy pertenecen a su madre, comentó González.



para ambos.

El escándalo que han estelarizado sus familiares lo atribuyó a la codicia y a algunos medios de comunicación por "amarrar navajas".

# ¿QUE PASA? Let us know! email us at eleditor@sbcglobal.net

Former 'American Idol' contestant Jason Castro inks record deal with Atlantic



He lost out on "American Idol" last year, but Jason Castro has won himself a deal with Atlantic Records.

According to an official press release from the record label, the singer and guitarist is already working on material for his debut album, which is expected to be released this summer.

The 22-year-old Texan, who was the third runner up on the 2008 season of "American Idol", is collaborating with current "Idol" judge Kara DioGuardi and Grammy-winning producer John Fields, plus a number of other top names in the music biz.

Guitarist Castro was the first "Idol" contes-

tant to play an instrument on the hit Fox show and notched up his first number-one single on iTunes with his live rendition of "Over The Rainbow".

He also bumped up sales of Jeff Buckley's cover of the Leonard Cohen track "Hallelujah" to the top spot on iTunes, where it shifted 178,000 digital copies, after winning over viewers with his own version of the song.

So, what will we be hearing next from Castro? According to Atlantic Records, he's already recorded a new version of "Hallelujah," which will be featured on the soundtrack to Mexican film, "Amar A Morir," which is set for theatrical release this summer.

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# Number of illegal immigrants' children soars, Pew Hispanic Center study finds

# Heart Screening Unwarranted In Type 2 Diabetes Patients With No Symptoms

The number of children 4 million such children in



2008, up from 2.7 million five years earlier. All children born in this country are U.S. citizens, even if their parents are not. Texas is home to an

born in the U.S. into families with at least one parent here illegally is growing, posing thorny policy questions for U.S. and Mexican officials. A study released Tuesday by the Pew Hispanic Center showed that there were

estimated 1.4 million illegal immigrants. And the Dallas region has the nation's third-highest population of those born in Mexico. Mexicans represent nearly 60 percent of illegal immigrants nationwide, according to the Pew

study. One of those 4 million children is Jorge Barraza, who lives in Mesquite with his mother. His father has been barred from re-entry into the U.S. because he came here illegally more than a decade ago. Jorge's parents have lived apart for more than a year. "We were people who took the initiative to do the right thing," said Jorge's mother, Yvette Medrano, in referring to her attempt to legalize her husband's immigration status.

"We should have priority in any legalization," she said. "Anyone separated from a parent is in extreme hardship."

The federal government maintains a different view. At Immigration and Customs Enforcement, an agency within the Department of Homeland Security, spokesman Carl Rusnok said, "We recognize that children are impacted by enforcement of the law. However, ultimately parents, who are in violation of the law, are responsible for the negative impact to their families."

In January, at the request of a congressional committee, Homeland Security's inspector general found that more than 108,000 parents of U.S. citizens were deported over the decade ending in 2007.

Changes to immigration law made in 1996 reduced defenses against removals

for those who had substantial ties to the U.S., including spouses and children, the inspector general's report noted.

Legalizing illegal immigrants still here could be among the topics discussed this week as President Barack Obama visits Mexico for talks with Mexican President Felipe Calderón.

The Pew study showed stabilization, rather than growth, in the size of what it terms "unauthorized immigrants" at about 11.9 million. In Texas, it estimates the population at 1.4 million - or 6 percent of the overall Texas population.

That follows a March report by the Mexican census agency that net migration from Mexico had dropped by more than 50 percent in late 2008 from a year earlier. The Mexican government attributed the plunge to tough economic conditions worldwide. The Pew study's latest estimates come from early 2008 census data. Study co-author Jeffrey S. Passel was asked repeatedly in a news conference Tuesday whether immigrants were returning home.

Passel said that it was a possibility but that he wasn't prepared to say "large numbers" were leaving.

"The most recent data on this was from a year ago," Passel said. "It is certainly possible that there are trends we are not getting."

Routine screening for coronary artery disease in type 2 diabetes patients with no symptoms of angina or a history of coronary disease is unnecessary and may

lead initially to more invasive and costly heart procedures, according to researchers at Yale School of Medicine. They report their findings in the April 15 Journal of the American Medical Association.



tomatic Diabetics study in which 1,123 participants were randomly assigned to either a screening stress test that looks at the blood flow to the heart, or to a group that received no screening. Participants enrolled at 14 centers in the United States and Canada and were evaluated over the next five years.

The team found that routine screening of type 2 diabetics iden-

tifies a small group of patients at higher risk, but does not significantly affect overall outcome. With each test costing about \$1,000, and with 200 million patients with diabetes worldwide, Young says, "Routine screening would have tremendous economic implications and our findings did not indicate that routine stress testing had additional benefit in this population."

The study also found that routine screening leads initially to more invasive procedures such as cardiac catheterization, stents or bypass. "On the other hand, he cautioned, stress testing has an important role in evaluating patients with type 2 diabetes who have symptoms suggesting heart disease, since these individuals are at very high risk."

"This is a bit of good news in the field of diabetes where patients and their physicians have real concern for heart disease. In patients getting modern medical therapy in our study, serious heart problems were infrequent," said Young.

The team spearheaded the Detection of Ischemia in Asymp-



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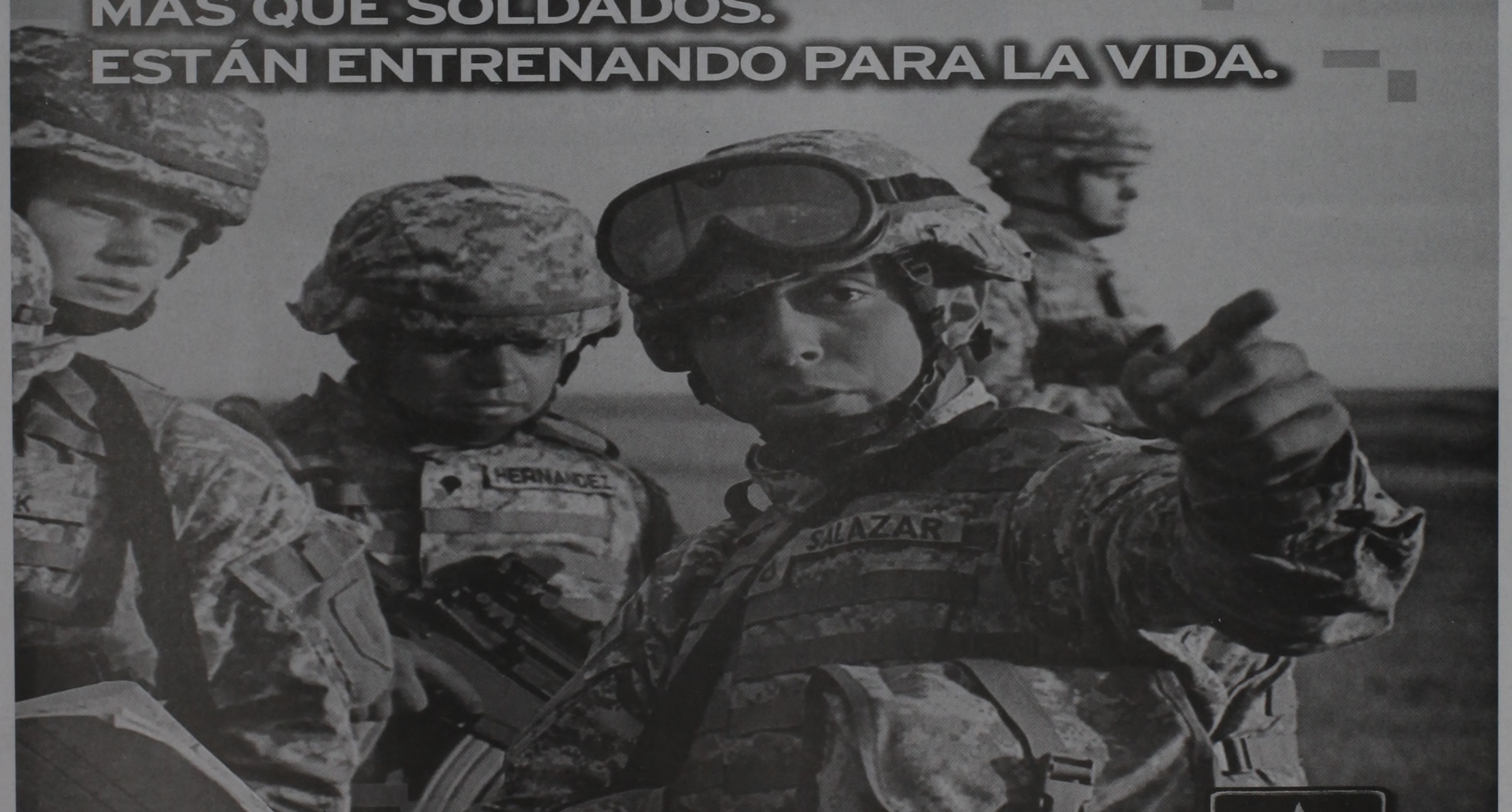
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# Ochoa aims for 4th straight win at Sybase in May



I said, I'm very motivated, I am at the top and I'm going to do whatever it takes to stay there."

Staying on top at the Upper Montclair Country Club has not been hard for Ochoa. The tournament moved here two years ago from Wykagyl Country Club in the northern suburbs of New York City, and Ochoa has owned it.

"I feel like home," she said. "I love the Northeast golf courses, just old, traditional with a lot of trees. I like the small greens, poa annua greens, the same type of greens that I play here in Guadalajara. It just makes me feel comfortable."

Ochoa has played in five events this year, winning her first start in Thailand and posting three Top 10s. Her 70.16 scoring average is the best on the tour, and her earning of \$430,205 is second to Shin's \$470,895. She is also second to Brittany Lincicome in the race for player of the year.

"I can see good things about my game," said the 27-year-old, who has won 25 LPGA Tour events. "I've been practicing hard this season trying to make changes and make a stronger break with my left hand and change a little bit my putting stroke. I'm really excited to see that I'm going in the right direction."

If there is a concern for Ochoa, it's the economy. The LPGA tour lost a couple of events this season. There are only two events in April.

"We are looking to get a couple of new sponsors, but it's not easy," Ochoa said. "I think what we can do is just to really spend more time with our sponsors, trying to support as much as we can."

"I believe that the LPGA is very strong, and that we should be in good shape. We are working together and for sure spend more time with the sponsors, that's one of our responsibilities and it's going to help our tour."

Ochoa plans to defend her title April 23-26 in the Corona Championship in Mexico. The week before the Sybase event, she intends to play in Mich-elob ULTRA Open at Kingsmill in Williamsburg, Virginia.

When it comes to the LPGA Sybase Classic, nothing seems to upstage Lorena Ochoa.

A year ago, Annika Sorenstam announced her retirement on the eve of the \$2 million tournament at the Upper Montclair Country Club.

No sweat, Ochoa offered Sorenstam her own little goodbye, taking command over the final two days to win the 72-hole event for the third straight year.

With the course reminding her of one she plays at home in Mexico, Ochoa said Tuesday she has a shot at winning a fourth straight year. That's something she has never done since joining the LPGA Tour.

"I've never been in that situation, but like I said before, it's more than pressure. It's motivation," Ochoa said in a conference call from Guadalajara. "I have the opportunity to do something special."

"So, I'm just going to enjoy it. I'm going to get there with a smile on my face. I know that if I play the way I played, I can be there on Sunday."

While Sorenstam won't be around to challenge Ochoa, the field for the May 14-17 event already includes Michelle Wie and 23-year-old South Korean sensation Jiyai Shin, who currently leads the LPGA earnings.

Ochoa, who has replaced Sorenstam as the face of the LPGA, admits she misses the Swede. However, she believes the competition is not lacking.

"I think we are in a great place because there are so many good players, more Americans this year, which I think is good for the LPGA, for the media," Ochoa said. "Michelle Wie is back and everybody likes that. Hopefully, she plays better in the next few tournaments. She's struggled a bit the last couple of weeks."

"I don't feel pressure at all. Like

# Cabrera given hero's welcome in Argentina

Masters winner Angel Cabrera showed off the newest addition to his wardrobe for the admiring hometown crowd that welcomed him back to Argentina.

"Green suits me," Cabrera said on Tuesday, smiling and sporting the Masters jacket he earned as the first champion from South America.

Two days after winning the Masters on the second hole of a three-way playoff at Augusta, Ga., the man nicknamed El Pato (The Duck) arrived in his hometown of Villa Allende in the province of Cordoba in north-central Argentina to a rousing welcome.

Cabrera also won the 2007 U.S. Open, joining South Africa's Gary Player as the only non-American players to win both. Cabrera vowed there was more to come.

"With sacrifice and work, any-

thing can be done," the 39-year-old Cabrera said.

"Now I'm going for the third major and I'm not going to stop until I win at least five."

Thirty years ago, he was introduced to golf as a caddie at the exclusive Cordoba Golf Club in Villa Allende. From a humble background, Cabrera was raised by his grandmother and started playing at 15 with borrowed clubs.

Club member Eduardo Romero financially supported Cabrera, allowing him to compete in tournaments in Argentina and abroad and at 20 he turned pro. Both majors are his only triumphs on the U.S. PGA Tour, and he has three other titles on the European Tour.



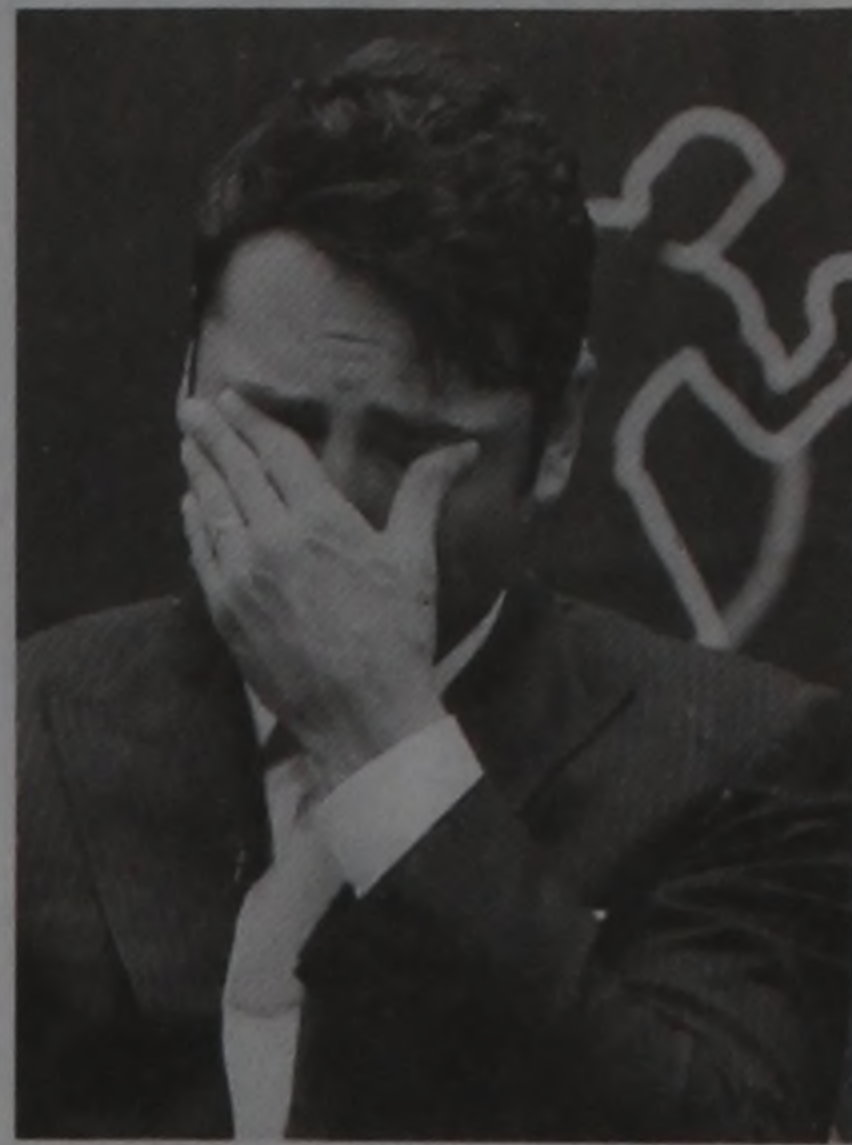
# Popular De La Hoya retires with 39-6 record

Oscar De La Hoya is calling it quits in the ring.

Boxing's most popular fighter announced his decision Tuesday across the street from Staples Center, where a statue of him stands.

De La Hoya is retiring four months after he was thoroughly beaten by Manny Pacquiao in his fourth loss in his last seven fights. It has been several years since De La Hoya beat a truly daunting opponent. He finishes with a record of 39-6 and 30 knockouts.

He told an outdoor audience that he's retiring because it's not fair to himself or the fans to continue when he can't compete at the highest level anymore.



The native of East Los Angeles will stay involved in the sport as a promoter with his Golden Boy Promotions company.

# Martínez aceptaría menos dinero para volver

Pedro Martínez expresó ayer que mantiene las expectativas de firmar un contrato de Grandes Ligas en el 2009 y aseguró que está dispuesto a sufrir un recorte salarial.

"Yo estoy dispuesto a aceptar un recorte de salario, porque el año pasado gané \$14 millones (con los Mets), pero no voy a firmar por un millón ni algo parecido", aseguró Martínez a la AP.

Martínez tuvo marca de 5-6 y 5.61 de efectividad la temporada pasada con los Mets de Nueva York, su último año de un contrato por cuatro campañas y \$53 millones. El derecho señaló que se mantiene abierto a la posibilidad de aceptar dinero diferido en un contrato "que se apegue a lo que yo valgo".

"Eso a mí me conviene, porque me estarían pagando a muchos años y si es así yo lo aceptaría", comentó el serpiente Fernando Cuza que ni siquiera me informe de ofertas

hasta que no lleguen al nivel que hablamos".

No especificó la cantidad de dinero que estaría buscando en un contrato en las Grandes Ligas.

A esta altura de la temporada, Martínez no tiene en su mente el tema del retiro.

"Retirarme ahora mismo sería darle una bofetada a lo que Dios me ha dado en términos de condiciones para lanzar", sostuvo.

El tres veces ganador del premio Cy Young dijo que se encuentra en buenas condiciones físicas tras varios años afectados por lesiones.

"Me siento en excelentes condiciones y te puedo decir que los juegos del Clásico Mundial me ayudaron a sentir que todavía me queda mucho de béisbol", señaló.

Con 37 años, Martínez lanzó por el equipo dominicano en el Clásico en marzo y sólo permitió un hit en seis entradas, con seis ponches.

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